

REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 59-105 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 59-67, 80-88 and 103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,418,853) in view of Takahashi (U.S. Patent No. 5,960,151) and further in view of Okamoto et al. (U.S. Patent 5,627,655). Claims 68, 69, 89 and 90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota, Takashi, Okamoto and further in view of Ryan (U.S. Pat. No. 4,577,216). Claims 70-74 and 91-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota and Okamoto in view of Kimoto et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,303,294). Claims 75-79, 96-102, 104 and 105 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota, Takashi, Okamoto and Kimoto. Applicants submit that the independent claims (claims 59, 70, 75, 80, 91, 96, 101 and 103-105) are now patentable over Kanota, Takashi, Okamoto, Ryan and Kimoto.

Applicants' invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a digital signal recorder and digital signal recording method. Each of the claims now recites that copy management information is generated, and that "said copy management information including an indicator of whether copying of only digital video data generated from the received analog video signal is inhibited or copying of both digital and analog video data generated from the received analog video signal is inhibited."

Neither Kanota, Takashi, Ryan nor Kimoto discloses generating digital copy management information for indicating whether only digital or both analog and digital copying is inhibited. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 59-105 are patentable over Kanota, Takashi, Okamoto, Ryan and Kimoto - taken either alone or in combination - on at least this basis.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
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